



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

MR ERNIE LAZAR
APARTMENT 6
577 SOUTH THORNHILL ROAD
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264 7884

January 18, 2008

Xrefs
2/4/58 - 4/21/58

✓ Subject: LAVARRE, WILLIAM

FOIPA No. 1043365- 001

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552

Section 552a

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
| _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3) |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(5) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6) | | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

65 page(s) were reviewed and 49 page(s) are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", followed by a stylized flourish or number "3".

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

A search of the indices to our central records system files at FBI Headquarters revealed that William LaVarre has not been the subject of an FBI investigation, however, cross-references were located wherein his name is mentioned in a file concerning another individual, organization, event, activity, or the like.

In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages which mention him by name and any additional pages showing the context in which his name was mentioned.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET 01/24/1958

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 16

Page 26 ~ b1
Page 57 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 58 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 59 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 60 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 61 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 62 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 63 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 64 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 86 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 87 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 88 ~ b1, b2, b6, b7C, b7D
Page 89 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 90 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 93 ~ Misc Illegible
Page 94 ~ Misc Illegible

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~~SECRET~~b6
b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York

DATE: February 4, 1958

FROM : Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DATE: 12-06-2007

CLASSIFIED BY 60324 uc baw/rs/lsg

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6)

12-06-2032

ReBulet 1-24-58.

~~To: # 99-13
CLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6~~

For your information, William LaVarre, editor-in-chief of captioned publication, appeared at the Bureau on 1-20-58.

LaVarre stated that he agreed to take over the editorship of the "American Mercury" on the condition that Russell Maguire, owner, would allow him a free hand as to what material would be published. LaVarre said he now finds there is great pressure building up for him to include various items in the magazine which he disapproves, such as anti-Semitic material. He said that the situation is such that he does not dare absent himself from New York City when Maguire is there for fear Maguire will have material published which LaVarre feels should not be published. LaVarre indicated that his contract with the publication expires 8-31-58 and, although he has an option to buy the magazine at that time, he expressed doubt that he would be interested in the publication at the expiration of his contract.

LaVarre described Maguire as a refuge for the "crack-pot fringe" who is in the habit of entertaining members of the "crack-pot fringe" when they come to New York. He pointed out that Maguire, who is extremely wealthy, made much of his money out of wildcat oil deals. According to LaVarre, Maguire has recently taken a keen interest in religion and has been attempting to portray himself as a great patriot and Christian. LaVarre further said that he knows Maguire takes in a considerable amount of money in contributions from various groups, some of which is donated because such groups feel Maguire and the "American Mercury" are performing a patriotic duty and because they desire wider distribution of the magazine.

2 - Washington Field

~~FO# 99-13
3/3/99 SP2 ALM/EHL~~~~SECRET~~b6
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~~SECRET~~

Letter to SAC, New York
Re: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE

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On one occasion, according to LaVarre, [redacted] sent Maguire a certified check in the amount of \$10,000 and LaVarre said he has reason to believe that same source contributed \$5,000 on another occasion. He stated that Maguire has also received a check from the Saudi Arabia Ambassador.

LaVarre further said that in conversation with his associates, Maguire has mentioned the FBI frequently in such a manner so as to indicate that he had a secret source of information in the Bureau; however, he was unable to furnish any details in this regard and indicated he personally did not believe Maguire had such a source.

✓ Bufiles reflect that LaVarre was associated with the Commerce Department in South America during World War II and has been a writer and author for a number of years. During 1949 the Bureau conducted a full-field investigation of LaVarre in connection with his application for employment with State Department. This investigation did not develop any adverse information of a security nature. However, a number of LaVarre's associates declined to recommend him for Government service, describing him as a "troublemaker," "financially irresponsible," and "overbearing and dictatorial."

New York and Washington Field should, during the course of investigation previously requested [redacted]

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[redacted] bearing in mind the possibility that Maguire and/or the "American Mercury" may have undertaken activities on behalf of Saudi Arabia which would come within the scope of the Registration Act.

Upon completion of the investigation being conducted by New York and Washington Field [redacted]

(S)

New York should submit a specific recommendation as to the desirability of interviewing LaVarre and/or other officials of the "American Mercury." If New York recommends interviewing officials of captioned publication other than LaVarre, it should specify such officials by name and title.

In view of LaVarre's statement to the effect that Maguire claims to have a secret source in the FBI, New York is cautioned to be most discreet in any future contacts with Maguire.

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DATE: 12-06-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 uc baw/rs/lsg
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6)
12-06-2032

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office WASHINGTON FIELD	Office of Origin NEW YORK	CONFIDENTIAL Investigative Period 1/20, 28, 29; 2/7, 14, 28; 3/1, 4, 38 3/8, 10, 11/58
TITLE OF CASE "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE		Type b6 b7C
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE		CHARACTER OF CASE REGISTRATION ACT INTERNAL SECURITY - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Synopsis:

<div style="text-align: center;">X</div>
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- 2 -

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made:			
4 - Bureau			
2 - New York (97-1446) (RM)			
2 - Oklahoma City (RM)			
2 - Washington Field (97-1021)			

~~FO # 99-13~~

~~SP2 ALM/ETHL/JTG~~

~~1, 6~~

~~3/5/99~~

Property of FBI - This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

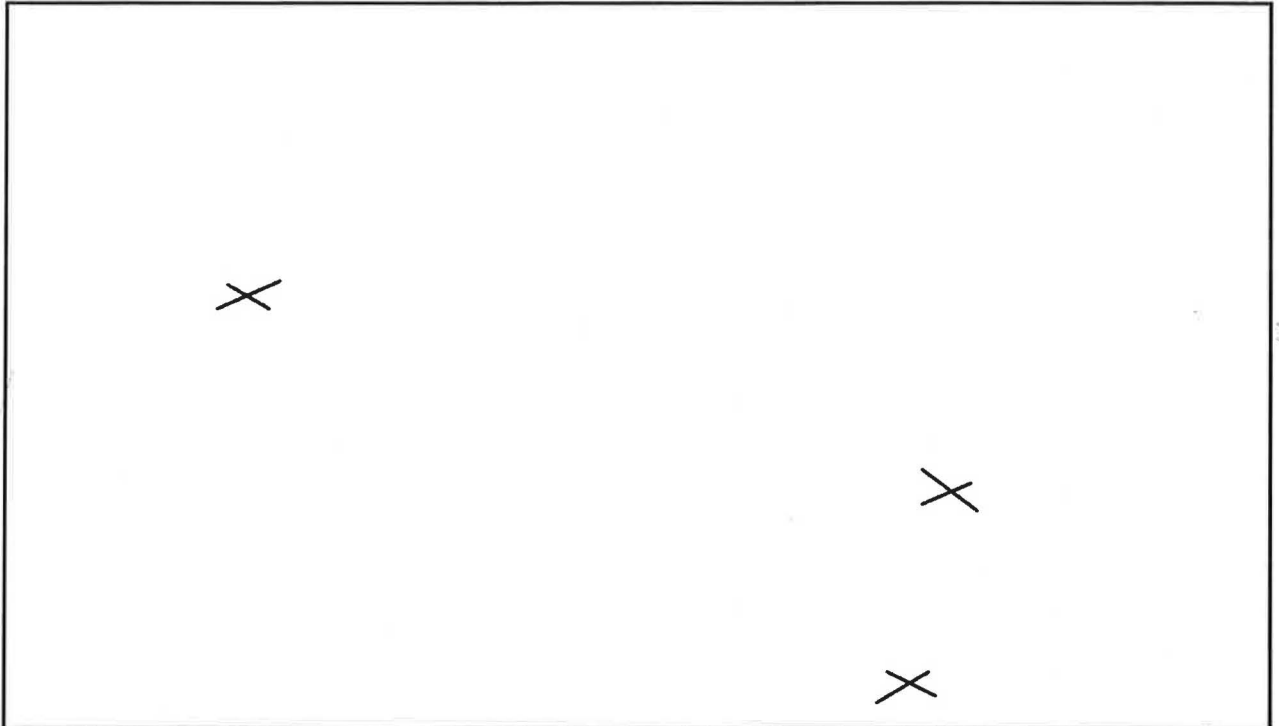
☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1956 O-385319

~~SECRET~~

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WFO 97-1021

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:



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(S) An anonymous telephone inquiry at "American Mercury" magazine in January, 1958, reflected that the "Christian Crusade" is a religious publication from Tulsa, Oklahoma, published by Dr. BILLY JAMES HARGIS.

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[redacted] Catholic Information Center, 741 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., advised SA [redacted] on March 10, 1958, that the Oriel Society is a Catholic literary and cultural group in New York composed of persons who have attended Oxford University on scholarships. She could furnish no information about the activities of this group nor could she identify any of its officers or members.



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WFO 97-1021

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It is noted that an article entitled, "What is Behind the Galindez Case," authored by HAROLD LORD VARNY, appeared in the June, 1957, issue of "American Mercury" magazine.

[redacted] a Columbia University professor, who voiced strong opposition to the Trujillo regime in the DR, disappeared in New York City on March 12, 1955, and his whereabouts are still unknown.

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On January 20, 1958, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that the [redacted] had on one occasion sent MAGUIRE a certified check in the amount of \$10,000. He said he had reason to believe that the same source contributed \$5,000 on another occasion and that MAGUIRE has also received a check from the Saudi Arabian Ambassador.

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WFO 97-1021

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Information furnished by Confidential Informants
[redacted] was made available on a strictly confidential
basis and should not be made public except in the usual
proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena.

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- 4 -

~~SECRET~~



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 97-1021

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

Washington, D. C.
March 19, 1958

**"AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
INTERNAL SECURITY - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Regarding the report of Special Agent [redacted]
[redacted] dated and captioned as above the following information
is set forth:

Confidential Informants [redacted]
have furnished reliable information in the past.

Confidential Informant [redacted] has been contacted an
insufficient number of times to establish his reliability,
but he is in a position to furnish information concerning
"American Mercury" magazine and Russell Maguire.

This memorandum is loaned to you by the Federal
Bureau of Investigation and neither it nor its contents are
to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

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FO # 99-13

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/3/99 BY SP2 ALM/EHL/jhs

97-1021-6

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

DIRECTOR, FBI

3/19/58

SAC, WFO (97-1021)

**"AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Enclosed herewith are four copies for the Bureau,
two for New York, and two for Oklahoma City of the report of
SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above; along
with equal number of copies of letterhead memo.

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REFERENCES

Report of SA [redacted], dated 1/17/58,
at Washington, D. C., captioned "DOMINICAN ACTIVITIES
IN THE UNITED STATES - IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC."

Bulets to New York dated 1/24/58 and 2/4/58.

New York letters to Bureau dated 1/29/58 and 2/12/58.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Results of the anonymous telephone inquiry at "American
Mercury" magazine were furnished WFO by New York letter to
Director 1/29/58. The exact date of the inquiry, the identity
of the Agent making the inquiry, and the pretext used, if any,
are not known to WFO.

The established source utilized at the [redacted]
[redacted] has been out of the city and will not
return until 3/17/58.

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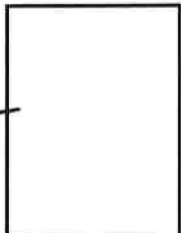
(S)

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 8)
 - 2 - New York (97-1446) (Encls. 4) (RM)
 - 2 - Oklahoma City (RM) (Encls. 4)
 - 2 - WFO
- RBE:CBB
(8)

~~Fo #99-13~~

~~SP2 ALM/EHL/jrb~~
~~1.6~~

~~3/3/99~~



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WFO 97-1021

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where Located
(S) [redacted] (S)			
[redacted] WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor-in-Chief, "American Mercury" magazine (By request)	1/20/58	Bureau	Instant report.
[redacted]	/10/58	Not indicated in NY let to Director 2/12/58	Instant file
[redacted]	2/28/58	[redacted]	Instant report
[redacted]	2/5/57	[redacted]	Instant report

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and a T symbol was utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

[redacted] requested that neither his name nor the identity of the [redacted] with which he is associated be made known outside the Bureau and that subpoena for information furnished by him be directed only to any [redacted] and not specifical to him.

- 2 -
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WFO 97-1021

LEADS

OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICE:

AT TULSA, OKLAHOMA:

1. Will, during investigation of Dr. BILLY JAMES HARGIS and "Christian Crusade" [redacted]

(S)

~~(S)~~

[redacted] to "American Mercury" and/or "RUSSELL MAGUIRE for Christian Crusade." ~~(S)~~

2. Will report under above caption information developed during investigation of HARGIS pertinent to instant investigation.

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WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

1. Will report results of efforts by [redacted]

(S)

2. Will report results of inquiry at [redacted] concerning efforts to further identify instant [redacted] ~~(S)~~(u)

3. Will report any additional information obtained from established sources pertinent to this matter.

(S)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

DIRECTOR, FBI

3/28/58

SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)

"AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Re WFO airtel 3/13/58 and WFO report of SA [redacted]
[redacted] 3/19/58.

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(S)

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The NYO will, upon completion of WFO leads set forth
in referenced WFO report of 3/19/58, consider requesting Bureau
permission to interview WILLIAM LA VARRÉ, editor-in-chief of
captioned publication, since he may have more information to
offer than when previously interviewed at the Bureau on 1/20/58.

2-Bureau (RM)
1-Washington Field (97-1021) (RM)
1-New York (97-1446)

99-13

CLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL/YLB
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6

3/3/99

DRE:EG
(4)

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York (97-1446)

DATE: 4/11/58

FROM : *JP* Director, FBI (97-3486)SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ReBulet 2/4/58. For the information of Oklahoma City, reBulet set out information furnished by William LaVarre, editor-in-chief of captioned publication, 1/20/58, concerning connections between Russell Maguire, owner of the publication, and [redacted] Further reference is made to Washington Field letter 3/19/58 in captioned matter, copies of which were furnished New York and Oklahoma City.

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For the information of interested offices, LaVarre volunteered the following additional information during a visit to the Bureau on 3/29/58:

LaVarre advised that Maguire is keenly interested in a group known as the "Christian Crusade" which operates at Tulsa, Oklahoma, under the leadership of Reverend Billy Hargis. LaVarre described Hargis as a "hillbilly evangelist" whose following is made up of anti-Semites and "the radical right wing." According to LaVarre, the "Christian Crusade" has a number of radio programs in the Midwest and receives considerable sums of money to carry on its activities which, among other things, consist of sending propaganda balloons into Red China.

LaVarre said that to his personal knowledge, Maguire has received a total of \$50,000 from [redacted] \$15,000 of which Maguire has channeled into the "Christian Crusade." He advised that he has Photostats of the cashier's checks drawn on the Riggs Bank of Washington, D. C., as proof of this statement. LaVarre

1 - Washington Field (97-1021)

1 - Oklahoma City (97-33)

99-13

3/3/99 SP2 ALM/EHL/116
282, 810, 12/7/88 By SP 5 ci/116

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SAC, New York
Re: "American Mercury" Magazine
97-3486

advised that Hargis had recently visited the Dominican Republic where he was favorably received and entertained. LaVarre expressed the opinion that Maguire's chief motive in his dealings with [redacted] is to promote the sale of various oil stocks which Maguire controls. He was also of the opinion that Maguire's connection with the "Christian Crusade" is prompted by the hope that he will be able to develop a following in this group in which he can promote his various oil schemes. New York should make arrangements to interview LaVarre in the near future in order to obtain copies of the Photostats LaVarre claims to have with regard to the money reportedly given to Maguire by

[redacted] Appropriate steps should be taken to insure that this interview does not come to the attention of Maguire. Any information developed concerning the "Christian Crusade" or Hargis should be furnished to Oklahoma City in connection with its current investigation of Hargis, Oklahoma City file 97-33.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 4/16/58

FROM : ASAC WILLIAM G. SIMON

SUBJECT: AMERICAN MERCURY MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT

SAO
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
SEC. 8
SEC. 9
SEC. 10
SEC. 11
SEC. 12
SEC. 13
SEC. 14
SEC. 15
SEC. 16
SEC. 17
SEC. 18
SEC. 19
SEC. 20

At 6:07 P.M., 4/16/58, Mr. Joseph A. Sizoo, Bureau, called. He referred to Bulet, 4/11/58, captioned as above in which instructions were given NYO to interview WILLIAM LAVARRE, Editor-in-Chief of the above magazine.

He stated RUSSEL McGUIRE, owner and publisher of this magazine, allegedly has received money from the Dominican Republic. Allegedly, there is bad blood between LAVARRE and McGUIRE and LAVARRE claims McGUIRE has been working on behalf of the DOMINICANS.

Mr. Lavarre supposedly has checks showing payment from the Dominicans to McGuire. Mr. Sizoo stated, NYO was instructed to see LAVARRE in order to secure these checks and other information in his possession.

He stated that on 4/16/58, Mr. Lavarre called Mr. Cartha D. De Loach, of the Bureau, and told him McGuire was attempting to dismiss him from his position and LAVARRE stated he was going to fight in order to secure completion of his contract or salary in lieu thereof. He stated he had contacted his attorney, ADOLPH A. BERLE (former Assistant Secretary of State) and that they plan to swing into action on 4/17/58, which will include:

(1) The furnishing to Congressman CHARLES O. PORTER of data concerning the relationship between the Dominicans and McGuire.

(2) Subpoena records of the Riggs National Bank, which will show financial transactions between the Dominicans and McGuire.

Mr. Lavarre desired the Bureau to advise whether or not the Bureau wished him to hold off his action and the Bureau informed him that he should not take any steps to withhold any action which he desires to undertake on behalf of the Bureau.

WGS:MFB

FO # 99-13

97-1446-

3/8/99

SP2ALN/EHC/116



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Mr. Sizoo stated the purpose of this call is to strongly suggest that, if Mr. Lavarre has not been interviewed, as apparently he has not, in view of his call to the Bureau this date, Lavarre should be contacted immediately and at least no later than the first thing in the morning, 4/17/58.

I spoke with Supervisors [redacted] and [redacted] concerning this matter in order that we may ascertain the present status of this matter and comply with the Bureau's desires.

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b7C

4/17/58

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3486)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)

SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ReBulet, 4/11/58, and Bu telephone call to NY,
4/16/58.

WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor-in-Chief of captioned
magazine was interviewed at his office per his request. 250
W. 57th St., NYC, on 4/17/58, by SAS [redacted],
and [redacted]

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b7C

LA VARRE stated that RUSELL MAGUIRE, owner of
the magazine considers himself to be the "banker" for what
LA VARRE termed all the "screwballs" and "crackpot" organizations
in the country, and as such, receives and solicits donations
from people. LA VARRE stated that MAGUIRE, in his opinion,
does not use his own money but uses these donations to help
finance these "crackpot organizations."

- 3 - Bureau (97-3486) (RM)
- 1 - Norfolk (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Oklahoma City (97-33) (RM)
- 1 - Washington Field (97-1021) (RM)
- 1 - New York (97-1446)

DRE:ac *de*
(8)

7/8 Wym

FO # 99-13

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/8/99 BY SP2 ALM/EHL/JRG

#282,810, 12/6/88 By SP5 ci/ahr

77

4/17/58

AIRTEL

NY 97-1446

LA VARRE stated that 3 or 4 months ago he noticed an official Dominican Republic envelope addressed to MAGUIRE and sent by mistake to the magazine instead of MAGUIRE's office at 500 5th Ave., NYC. LA VARRE opened the envelope and found a cashiers check from [redacted] to MAGUIRE, for an unrecalled amount of money. LA VARRE stated since then he has opened all the mail and found other cashiers checks from [redacted] to MAGUIRE in both plain and official DR envelopes. LA VARRE stated it was his opinion that MAGUIRE takes these checks and deposits them in one of his several accounts and then sends his personel check to organizations, such as the "Christian Crusade," leading these people to believe that the money was MAGUIRE's.

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With regard to the "Christian Crusade" of Tulsa, Oklahoma, LA VARRE stated it is headed by Dr. BILLY HARGIS, a "hill billy type evangelist," and run by [redacted] an advertising and promotional man who previously headed the promotional campaign of ORAL ROBERTS, a Texas faith healer and evangelist. In October or November, 1957, LA VARRE advised that \$10,000 was passed from [redacted] to MAGUIRE for the "Christian Crusade" ~~because~~ MAGUIRE inadvertently sent the cashiers check to Oklahoma instead of his personal check. Dr. HARGIS was quite upset when he learned the donation came from the Dominican Government and he and MAGUIRE were not on a friendly basis for a short while. LA VARRE declared the check was not returned, however, since it had been deposited to either HARGIS or the "Christian Crusade" bank account in Tulsa, Oklahoma. LA VARRE was of opinion he does not believe that Dr. HARGIS knows now that the continued donations from MAGUIRE is actually money from the Dominican Government but he stated he is positive [redacted] knows.

4/17/58

AIRTEL

NY 97-1446

LA VARRE stated that all the checks sent to MAGUIRE by [] have been cashiers checks drawn on the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D.C.

LA VARRE advised, in his opinion, the DR Government is also financing the publishing of "The Virginian" a radical, extreme right-wing magazine in Newport, News, Va., published by a (FNU) [] LA VARRE stated this magazine was previously a small tract poorly printed but has now grown into a magazine. He stated [] goes to Washington, D. C. frequently to see [] and he believes this indicates that the magazine is financed by the DR.

LA VARRE declared that a few days ago, [] told him that [] is suffering from senile delusions of grandeur and that is the reason for the DR involvement with American magazines and religious groups. LA VARRE did not know where [] received this information.

LA VARRE stated that some months ago, MAGUIRE tried to get money from Middle East representatives such as Turkey and Egypt but was turned down. MAGUIRE was allegedly going to publish an article favorable to the Middle East and the money he attempted to solicit from the Turkish and Egyptian representatives would have been used for the publishing of reprints of this article.

LA VARRE also claimed that he believes the DR Government is also financing the "Constitution Party" a third political party formed in November, 1957, and of which MAGUIRE is National Chairman. The [] of the National Committee is []

LA VARRE was unable to

4/17/58

AIRTEL

NY 97-1446

corroborate his statement of the DR Government financing this new party.

It will be noted throughout the interview LA VARRE was vague in many of his statements and would go from one topic to another without explanation. The interview was terminated due to another appointment by LA VARRE. He stated he would have the Photostat of the checks showing the passage of money from [redacted] to MAGUIRE available Monday, 4/21/58, and other material relating to MAGUIRE. He requested this interview be at the Harvard Club, 27 W. 44th St., NYC, at 10:15 am. NYO will contact LA VARRE on 4/21/58, for above checks and any other information he makes available.

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Norfolk will check its files for information re "The Virginian" and advise the Bureau.

One copy is forwarded Oklahoma in connection with the current investigation of HARGIS.

POWERS

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NY (97-1446)

DATE: 4/21/58

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Re NY airtel to Bureau 4/17/58.

On 4/21/58, Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor in Chief of captioned magazine, was interviewed at the Harvard Club, 27 W. 44th St., NYC, Room 530, by SAs [REDACTED] per his request.

LA VARRE advised that he had been unable to locate the photostat copies of the checks showing the passage of money from [REDACTED] to RUSSELL MAGUIRE, owner of captioned magazine, previously mentioned in referenced airtel. LA VARRE explained that he had searched through numerous boxes containing his records but has been unable to produce the above mentioned checks which he previously had advised would be available this date. LA VARRE further explained that due to illness of his wife and his personal problems with MAGUIRE during the intervening time between interviews, he had been unable to give said search his full attention. LA VARRE advised that he will continue the search for the pertinent checks and will immediately advise the NYO when he has located them.

Mr. LA VARRE stated that RUSSELL MAGUIRE maintains a bank account in the Irving Trust Bank, NYC (exact branch unknown) under the account name of either Maguire Industries or just RUSSELL MAGUIRE, and two accounts in the Marine Midland Trust Co., 250 Park Ave., NYC, under the account name of American Mercury Magazine, Inc. and the Russell Maguire Oil Account.

Concerning organizations "believed" by LA VARRE to be partially supported by MAGUIRE are the following according to him:

1. "Time for Truth Press", Inc., P.O. Box 2223, Palm Beach, Fla.

Publishes:

A. Don Bell Reports

B. "Closer-Up"

Edited by GEORGE E. DEATHERAGE

FO # 99-13

RBF:EG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/8/99 BY SP2 ALM/EHL/JKB

17-1446-1

INDEXED	FILED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - NEW YORK	

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NY 97-1446

2. "Christian Crusade"
Published by Christian Echoes National Ministry, Inc.,
P.O. 977, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
(President: BILLY JAMES HARGIS, D.D.)
[redacted]

Concerning [redacted] mentioned above and previously mentioned in referenced airtel, Mr. LA VARRE advised that [redacted] two advertising agencies, one each in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Hollywood, California under the name of [redacted] Advertising Agency.

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Concerning information previously furnished by LA VARRE that MAGUIRE transfers funds from the American Mercury Magazine account to the Russell Maguire Oil Account, both accounts maintained at the Marine Midland Trust Co., NYC, LA VARRE furnished the following data concerning this:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2/13/58	\$ 13,288.73
2/18/58	18,021.98
2/19/58	5,000.00
2/27/58	39,094.66 (check #7093)
2/28/58	57,108.31

Concerning LA VARRE's personal difficulties with RUSSELL MAGUIRE, mentioned above as part of the reason he did not have sufficient time to search his records for the photostat copies of [redacted] checks to MAGUIRE, it is to be noted that Mr. LA VARRE was advised that such difficulties were of interest only to him and that his furnishing us information was done on a voluntary basis on his part and that as such it quite naturally must be treated on a very confidential basis. Mr. LA VARRE advised that he understood this and that he had not in the past or would not in the future divulge to any unauthorized person that he had furnished information to the Bureau.

4/21/58

AIR-TEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3486)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)
SUBJECT: AMERICAN MERCURY MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Re NY airtel to Bureau 4/17/58.

On 4/21/58, Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor in Chief of captioned magazine, was interviewed at the Harvard Club, 27 W. 44th St., NYC. Room 530, by [redacted] per [redacted] request.

LA VARRE advised that he had been told to take into the photo stat center of the checks at the time the passage of money from [redacted] to RUSSELL MCQUIRE, owner of captioned magazine, previously mentioned in referenced airtel. LA VARRE explained that he had searched through numerous files containing his name but has been unable to produce the above mentioned checks which he previously had advised would be available this date. LA VARRE further explained that due to illness of his wife and his personal problems with MCQUIRE during the intervening time between interviews, he has been unable to give said search his full attention. LA VARRE advised that he will continue the search for the captioned checks and will immediately advise the NY Office as he locates them.

3-Bureau (97-3486)
1-New York City (97-33) (INFO)
1-WFO (97-1021) (INFO)
1-New York (97-1446)
DRE: [redacted]
(7)

FO # 99-13

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/8/99 BY SP2ALM/EHL

#282,810, 12/6/88 BY SP5CI/ahr

97-1446

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FBI - NEW YORK	

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NY 65-14425

Concerning L. WERRY, personal difficulties with RUSSELL MAGUIRE, mentioned above as part of the reason he did not have sufficient time to furnish his report for the photograph of [redacted] to MAGUIRE, it is to be noted that Mr. L. WERRY was advised that such difficulties were of interest only to him, and that furnishing information to the FBI was on a voluntary basis on his part and that as such, it quite naturally should be treated on a very confidential basis. Mr. L. WERRY advised that he understood this and that he is not in the position to do so in the future and that any further information that he had furnished was strictly confidential.

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The NYO will contact Mr. L. WERRY at 100/100, if he has not advised the NYO of the location of the photograph of the subject.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 4/21/58

FROM : ASAC WILLIAM G. SIMON

SUBJECT: AMERICAN MERCURY MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT

At 4:45 P.M., 4/18/58, Mr. Joseph A. Sizoo, Bureau, called and stated the Director had instructed that we be certain we are not jockeyed into taking sides between WILLIAM LAVARRE, Editor-in-Chief of the above magazine and RUSSEL MCGUIRE, owner and publisher.

I told Mr. Sizoo that, after his call, 4/16/58, I had instructed that the interview of LAVARRE be conducted by two Special Agents and that the interview had been handled in that manner. I told him we would be alert against being jockeyed into taking sides. I thereafter spoke with Supervisors [redacted]

[redacted] and SAs [redacted]. The latter two are handling the interview with LAVARRE. I informed them of the Bureau's instructions and that they should do or say nothing that could give rise to the allegation that we are taking sides in instant matter.

WGS:MFB

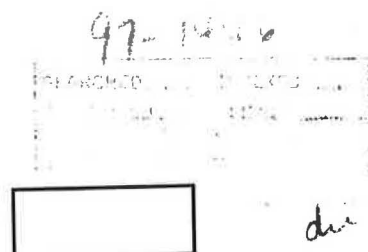
FD # 99-13

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/8/99

SP 2 ALM/EHL/JTB

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Field 100-89-13
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/21/99 BY SP-2 ACD/ETK 4/25/58

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3486)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)
SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
REGISTRATION ACT
IS-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FO # 94-13

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETK/ML
DATE 10/25/06

Re WFO letter 4/4/58 and NY airtel 4/21/58.

On 4/25/58, Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor-in-Chief of captioned magazine, advised that he had terminated his employment with the magazine as of the close of business 4/22/58. He advised that he has not had a chance to look through all his papers, which are voluminous in number, due to his wife's illness. He stated that he will endeavor to go through his papers shortly and will call the FBI if he should uncover the photostat copies of the checks concerning which he had previously furnished information. Mr. LA VARRE was unable to give an estimate of time as to when he might locate the copies of the checks. NYO will not recontact LA VARRE re copies of checks, WACS.

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NY will endeavor through a search of other NY banks to locate other accounts of MAGUIRE's or the American Mercury Magazine

3-Bureau (97-3486) RM
1-Oklahoma City (97-33) (Info) RM
1-Washington Field (97-1021) (Info) RM
1-New York (97-1446)

DRE:EG

(7)

JMY

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F B I

Date: 4/29/58

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via Airtel

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

To: SAC, New York (97-1446)
 2 - Washington Field (97-1021)
 2 - Oklahoma City (97-33)

JRM From: Director, FBI (97-3486)

"AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
 REGISTRATION ACT
 IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ReBulet 4/11/58 and New York airtels 4/17/58
 and 4/21/58.

Pertinent information furnished by LaVarre has been disseminated to Internal Security Division of Department. New York should promptly surep inoorporating LaVarre's information and should closely follow matter to resolve whether or not LaVarre can substantiate his allegations concerning transfer of funds between [] and Maguire. All leads in captioned matter and any related investigations such as Oklahoma City's investigation involving "Christian Crusade," should be expedited and results promptly submitted in form suitable for dissemination. Field should handle all inquiries in careful manner to insure Bureau cannot be charged with taking sides in personal dispute between Maguire and LaVarre.

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In view of vague nature of LaVarre's allegations concerning Dominican support of "The Virginian" and the Constitution Party, no active investigation is desired at this time concerning these charges. However, during course of continuing inquiries in captioned matter, Field should be alert for any information tending to substantiate these allegations.

Keep Bureau advised of any pertinent developments.

FO # 99-13

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 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3/8/99 BY SP5

282,810 12/6/88 BY SP5 ci/ahr

Sent Via _____

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 APR 30 1958
 FBI - NEW YORK

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
C O N F I D E N T I A L

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 5/13/58	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/16-18, 21, 25; 5/1/58
TITLE OF CASE "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div>	TYPED BY cc
		CHARACTER OF CASE REGISTRATION ACT; INTERNAL SECURITY - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	

F.O. 99-13
DECLASSIFIED BY **SP2-ALM/2TG**
ON **4/21/99**

SYNOPSIS:

WILLIAM LA VARRE, Editor in Chief of "American Mercury", advised 4/17/57, that three or four months ago, he noticed an official Dominican Republic envelope addressed to **MAGUIRE** containing a cashiers check from for an unrecalled amount of money. LA VARRE declared that since then he has noticed other cashiers checks from to **MAGUIRE** in both plain and official Dominican Republic envelopes. LA VARRE advised on 4/21 and 25/58, that he was unable to locate Photostat copies of the cashiers checks which he had thought were in his possession. advised on 4/25/58,

F.O. 99-13
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE **4/21/99** BY **SP2-ALM/2TG**

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F.O. 99-13
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SP2-ALM/2TG

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APPROVED <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 30px;"></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 4 - Bureau (97-3486) (RM) 1 - Norfolk (Info) (RM) 3 - Oklahoma City (97-33) (RM) 1 - Washington Field (97-1021) (Info) (RM) 3 - New York (97-1446)		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 100px; position: relative;"><div style="position: absolute; top: 5px; right: 5px;">97-1446-2</div><div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; left: 5px;">Mans</div></div>	

C O N F I D E N T I A L

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INTERVIEW REPORT

DETAILS:

4/24/58

Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE advised that he joined the staff of "American Mercury Magazine" on July 1, 1957 at the specific request of RUSSELL MAGUIRE, owner of the magazine, and signed a one year employment contract. Mr. LA VARRE advised that MAGUIRE considers himself to be the "banker" for what LA VARRE termed all of the "screwballs" and "crackpot organizations" in the country and as such receives and solicits donations from people. LA VARRE advised that MAGUIRE in his opinion, did not use his own money, but uses the donations from other persons to help finance these "crackpot organizations".

LA VARRE declared that approximately three or four months ago he noticed an official Dominican Republic envelope addressed to MAGUIRE and sent by mistake to the magazine instead of MAGUIRE's office at 500 5th Avenue, New York City. LA VARRE opened the envelope and found a cashiers check from [redacted] to MAGUIRE for an unrecalled amount of money. LA VARRE stated that since then he has opened all the mail going to the magazine and found other cashiers checks from [redacted] to MAGUIRE in both plain and official Dominican Republic envelopes. LA VARRE stated it was his opinion that MAGUIRE takes these checks and deposits them in one of his several bank accounts and then sends his personal check to organizations such as the "Christian Crusade", leading these people to believe that the money was MAGUIRE's.

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With regard to the "Christian Crusade" of Tulsa, Oklahoma, LA VARRE stated it is headed by Dr. BILLY HARGIS, a "hillbilly type evangelist", and run by [redacted] an advertising and promotional man, who previously headed the promotional campaign of ORAL ROBERTS, a Texas faith healer and evangelist. In October or November, 1957, LA VARRE advised that \$10,000.00 was passed from [redacted] to MAGUIRE for the "Christian Crusade" as MAGUIRE inadvertently sent the cashiers check for the money to Oklahoma instead of his personal check. LA VARRE stated that Dr. HARGIS was quite

Interview with WILLIAM LA VARRE File # 97-1446
250 West 57th Street,
on 4/17/57 at Room 315, NYC Dictated: 4/18/58
by Special Agents [redacted] amn

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NY 97-1446

upset when he learned the donation came from the Dominican Government and HARGIS and MAGUIRE were not on friendly terms for a short while. LA VARRE declared that to the best of his knowledge the check was not returned however, since it had been deposited to either HARGIS' or the "Christian Crusade" bank account in Tulsa, Oklahoma. LA VARRE was of the opinion that Dr. HARGIS does not know now that continued donations from MAGUIRE is actually money from the Dominican Government, but he stated he is positive that [] knows of this.

LA VARRE declared that all the checks sent to MAGUIRE by [] that he has noticed have been cashiers checks drawn on the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D. C. LA VARRE also advised, in his opinion, the Dominican Republic Government is also financing the publishing of a radical extreme right wing magazine in Newport News, Virginia, called "The Virginian". LA VARRE stated this magazine is published by (FNU) []. LA VARRE stated this magazine was previously a small, poorly printed tract, but has now grown into a full magazine. He advised [] goes to Washington, D. C., frequently to see [] and he believes this indicates that the magazine is financed by the Dominican Republic Government.

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LA VARRE declared that a few days ago [] [] told him that [] is suffering from senile delusions of grandeur and that is the reason for the Dominican Republic involvement with American magazines and religious groups. LA VARRE did not know where [] received this information.

LA VARRE stated that some months ago MAGUIRE tried to get money from Middle East representatives, such as Turkey and Egypt, but was turned down. MAGUIRE was allegedly going to publish an article favorable to the Middle East, and the money he attempted to solicit from the Turkish and Egyptian representatives would have been used for the publishing of reprints of the article.

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NY 97-1446

LA VARRE also claimed that he believes the Dominican Republic Government is financing the "Constitution Party", a third political party formed in November, 1957, and of which MAGUIRE is national chairman. The [redacted] of the National Committee of this new party is [redacted]

LA VARRE advised that he also heard, source and date not recalled, that when [redacted] first assumed the duties of [redacted] MAGUIRE went to see him, introduced himself to [redacted] and received \$5000.00 from [redacted] for some unknown purpose.

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With regard to the operation of "American Mercury Magazine," LA VARRE stated that it was his opinion that MAGUIRE was utilizing the magazine's subscription list to send out reprints of material which appeared to be anti-Semitic in nature. LA VARRE stated that he had received letters from subscribers inquiring as to whether their subscription to the "American Mercury Magazine" had placed them on a mailing list for material which was offensive to them. LA VARRE also advised that he believed MAGUIRE was using the subscription list of the magazine to mail out various promotional material pertaining to MAGUIRE's oil operations in the Southwestern part of the United States.

LA VARRE advised that he had learned that during the 1940's the Security Exchange Commission had barred MAGUIRE in the Curb Exchange from the handling or selling of stock due to an operation LA VARRE termed "bucket-shop". LA VARRE declared he had also learned the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Security Exchange Commission had barred MAGUIRE in the Curb Exchange from the handling or selling of stock for some unknown reason.

LA VARRE advised that the Osterhouse Publishers, 4500 West Broadway, Minneapolis, Minnesota, are the printers of these objectionable tracts which MAGUIRE sends out. LA VARRE stated these tracts are purported to be summations and/or

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NY 97-1446

reprints of articles which have appeared in the "American Mercury Magazine" and on the back of these tracts is a request to any person reading them asking for a subscription to the "American Mercury Magazine" for themselves and their friends.

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NY 97-1446

On April 21, 1958, Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE was re-interviewed at the Hartford Club, 27 West 44th Street, New York City, Room 530, by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] per his request.

LA VARRE advised that he had been unable to locate the Photostat copies of the checks showing the passage of money from [redacted] to RUSSELL MAGUIRE, owner of captioned magazine. LA VARRE explained that he had searched through numerous boxes containing his records, but had been unable to produce the above mentioned checks which he previously had advised would be available this date. LA VARRE further explained that due to the illness of his wife and his personal problems with MAGUIRE during the intervening time between interviews, he had been unable to give said search his full attention. LA VARRE advised that he would continue the search for the pertinent copies of the checks and would immediately advise the New York Office when he had located them.

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LA VARRE stated that MAGUIRE maintains a bank account in the Irving Trust Bank, New York City, under the account name of either Maguire Industries or just RUSSELL MAGUIRE, and two accounts in the Marine Midland Trust Company, New York City, under the account name of "American Mercury" Magazine, Incorporated, and the Russell Maguire Oil account.

Concerning [redacted] mentioned previously by Mr. LA VARRE, he advised that [redacted] two advertising agencies, one each in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Hollywood, California, under the name of [redacted] Advertising Agency.

On April 25, 1958, Mr. LA VARRE was recontacted, at which time he stated that he had left the magazine as of the close of business on April 22, 1958. Mr. LA VARRE stated that he took this action after MAGUIRE agreed to put an ad in the June issue of the magazine reflecting that Mr. LA VARRE had terminated his duties as Editor in Chief. Mr. LA VARRE again advised that he had no chance

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On May 1, 1958, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (u)

The above information furnished by [redacted] is not to be made public except in the usual proceeding following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York

May 13, 1958

Re: "American Mercury" Magazine

Confidential informants [redacted] mentioned in
the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated
and captioned as above at New York, are informants who
have furnished reliable information in the past.

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loaned.

Fo # 99-13

3/8/99 SP2ALM/EH4 JTG

100-1446-36

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DATE: 12-06-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 uc baw/rs/lsg
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6)
12-06-2032

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

OFFICE MEMORANDUM . UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3486)
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)
SUBJECT: "AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
RA; IS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DATE: 5/13/58

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are four copies of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated and captioned as above, and letterhead memoranda relating to the reliability of informants utilized therein.

REFERENCES

NY airtel 3/28/58.
Washington Field report of SA [redacted] 4/4/58.
NY airtels 4/17, 21, 25/58.
Oklahoma City report of SA [redacted] 4/23/58.
Bureau airtel to NY, 4/29/58.

ADMINISTRATIVE

One copy of this report is furnished WFO for information since that office has previously conducted investigation in this matter.

One copy of this report is being furnished the Norfolk Office for information since the magazine "The Virginian" is published there.

The original of the FD-302 pertaining to the interview with LA VARRE on 4/17/58, is being maintained in the 1A section of this file.

It will be noted A. A. BERLE was not a former Secretary of State as reported by LA VARRE, but an Assistant Secretary of State from 1938-1944.

[redacted]

- 2 - Bureau (7-3486)(Encl. 8)(RM)
1 - Norfolk (Encl. 2)(Info)(RM)
3 - Oklahoma City (97-33)(Encl. 6)(RM)
1 - Washington Field (97-1021)(Info)(Encl. 2)(RM)
3 - New York (97-1446)

DRE:cc
(10)

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NY 97-1446

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONTINUED)

Concerning LA VARRE's difficulties with RUSSELL MAGUIRE mentioned by him as part of the reason he did not have sufficient time to search his records for the Photostat copies of [] checks to MAGUIRE, it is to be noted that LA VARRE was advised that such difficulties were of interest only to him and that his furnishing the FBI information was done on a voluntary basis on his part and that as such, it must naturally be treated on a very confidential basis. Mr. LA VARRE advised that he understood this, and that he had not in the past or would not in the future divulge to any unauthorized person that he had furnished information to the Bureau. It will also be noted that Mr. LA VARRE stated that he did not wish his name to be kept anonymous.

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INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Agent to Whom Furnished	File Number Where Located
[]	[]	instant report
[]	[]	instant report

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

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NY 97-1446

LEADS

OKLAHOMA CITY

At Tulsa, Oklahoma

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1. Will attempt to locate a bank account for "Christian Crusade" and will review account if possible for a deposit of five or ten thousand dollars which could be [redacted] cashiers check allegedly sent direct to Dr. HARGIS by mistake by MAGUIRE.

2. Will re-interview [redacted] for any knowledge he may have of this cashiers check and will also interview him regarding amounts and dates of checks furnished to the crusade by MAGUIRE.

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

1. Will check the records at Irving Trust Co., 46th St. and Madison Ave., to ascertain if any checks received by MAGUIRE from [redacted] have been deposited to the account which he previously maintained in this bank.

2. Will check other NY banking institutions to ascertain if MAGUIRE or the magazine maintains accounts with them.

3. Will contemplate recontacting WILLIAM LA VARRE to ascertain if he has located the Photostat copy of a check if, within a reasonable period of time, he does not contact the NYO.

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DIRECTOR, FBI (97-3485)

5/18/58

SAC, NEW YORK (97-1446)

"AMERICAN MERCURY" MAGAZINE
RA; IS-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ReNYrep of SA [REDACTED], 5/13/58.

The NYO has completed its investigation with no affirmative results pertaining to the uncovering of bank checks between [REDACTED] and RUSSELL MAGUIRE for the benefit of "Christian Crusade". Recontact with WILLIAM LA VARRE reflects his inability to locate photostat copies of any checks.

The NYO will, upon completion of outstanding leads in the Oklahoma City Office, if negative, submit the results in a closing report suitable for dissemination.

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FO # 99-13

James
2-Bureau (97-3485) RM
1-Oklahoma City (97-33) RM
1-New York (97-1446)

3/9/89 SPANM/EHL/JTG

DRE:EG
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97-1446-32

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Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55.)

DATE: 12-06-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 uc baw/rs/lsg
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6)
12-06-2032

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date AUG 20 1958	Investigative Period 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
TITLE OF CASE AMERICAN INDIAN GROUP IN		Report made by [REDACTED]	Typed By [REDACTED]
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE		CHARACTER OF CASE REGISTRATION OF; INTERNAL SECURITY - AMERICAN INDIAN	

Synopsis:

(S)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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99-13
[Handwritten notes and stamps]

Approved [Signature]	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 1cc OSI-NY 2/10/64 [Handwritten notes]		97-12-1-16	[REDACTED]

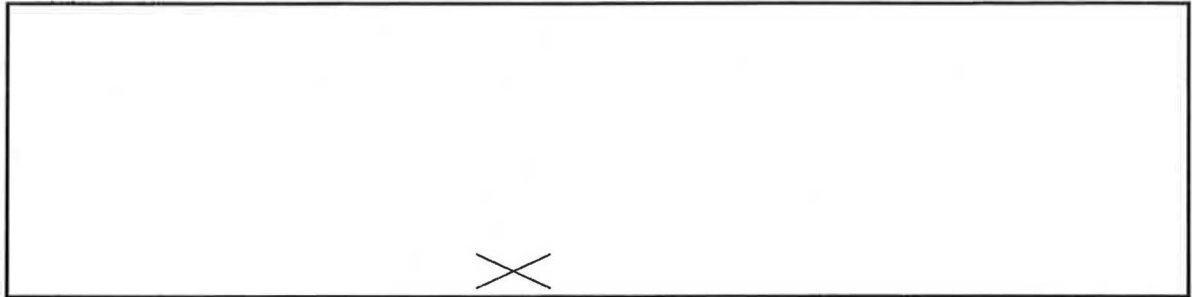
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NY 97-1446

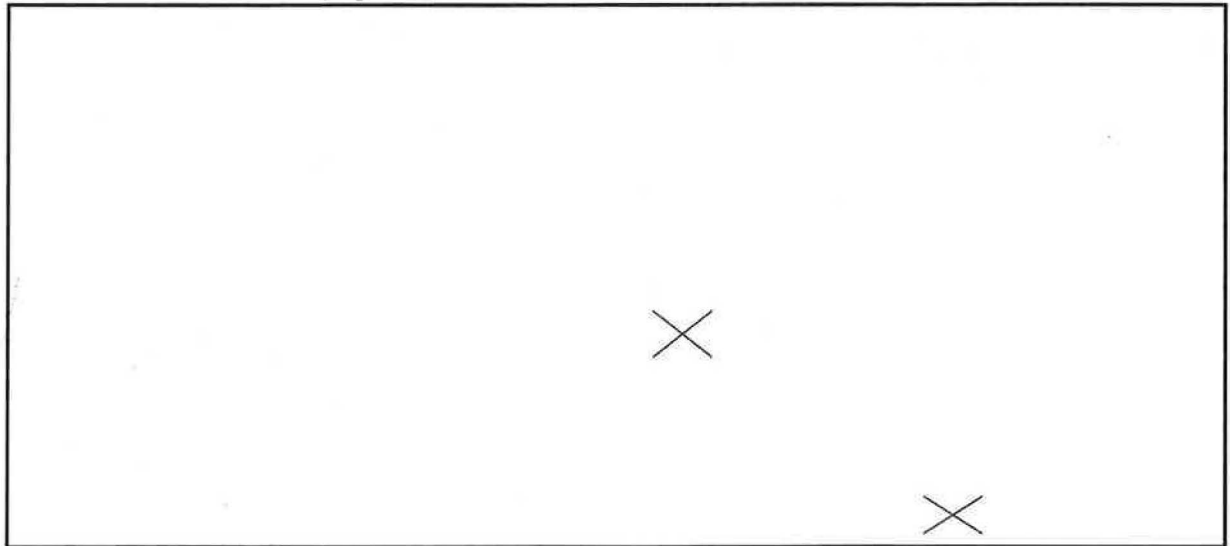
DETAILS:



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(S)

An anonymous telephone inquiry to the Dallas Mercury magazine in January, 1961, reflected that the Christian Crusade is a religious publication from Tulsa, Oklahoma, published by Dr. MILLY JAMES H. GIB.



(S)

It is noted as previously reported that during a prior interview of WILLIAM J. GIB, he stated that he could not identify the person who called him on January 11, 1961, and that he did not know the person who called him on January 12, 1961.

~~SECRET~~

~~CRE~~

NY 100-1444

information that he could possibly furnish Photostats of checks indicating the issuance of money from [redacted] [redacted] to [redacted] MAGUI, owner of "The Jean McGary" magazine. E. Vane advised [redacted] [redacted] on May 23, 1954, that he has been unable to locate any Photostats of such checks.

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Other informants of the NYO are [redacted]
beginning on Jan, 1964, when [redacted]

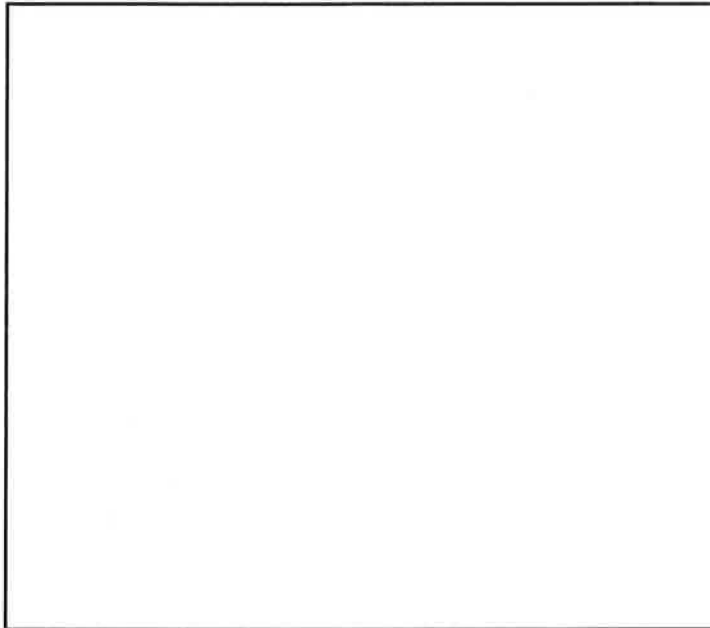
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NY 11-1444



b7D

The above information furnished by any of the informants mentioned above is not to be made public except in the usual proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

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NY 100-1440

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/11/01 BY 1043

1. Bill, upon completion of outstanding lead
in New York City Office, is being submitted to
in New York City Office.



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1. 5/16/58 Original FD 302 of interview with William La Varra on 4/17/58. BMS
- 2-4/20/59 1 pamphlet entitled "Poisoning These United States" distributed by The American M.C.
3. 6/11/59. 1 copy "Poisoning These United States." see serial 49. ~~12~~
4. 6/11/59. 1 copy "In the Mercury's Opinion." see serial 49. ~~12~~

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log#99-13



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97-1446-111
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INTERVIEW REPORT

FO # 99-13

3/3/99 SP2ALU

4/24/58

Mr. WILLIAM LA VARRE advised that he joined the staff of "American Mercury Magazine" on July 1, 1957 at the specific request of RUSSELL MAGUIRE, owner of the magazine, and signed a one year employment contract. Mr. LA VARRE advised that MAGUIRE considers himself to be the "banker" for what LA VARRE termed/ of the "screwballs" and "crackpot organizations" in the country and as such receives and solicits donations from people. LA VARRE advised that MAGUIRE, in his opinion, did not use his own money, but uses the donations from other persons to help finance these "crackpot organizations".

LA VARRE declared that approximately three or four months ago he noticed an official Dominican Republic envelope addressed to MAGUIRE and sent by mistake to the magazine instead of MAGUIRE's office at 500 5th Avenue, New York City. LA VARRE opened the envelope and found a cashiers check from [redacted] to MAGUIRE for an unrecalled amount of money. LA VARRE stated that since then he has opened all the mail going to the magazine and found other cashiers checks from [redacted] to MAGUIRE in both plain and official Dominican Republic envelopes. LA VARRE stated it was his opinion that MAGUIRE takes these checks and deposits them in one of his several bank accounts and then sends his personal check to organizations such as the "Christian Crusade", leading these people to believe that the money was MAGUIRE's.

b6
b7C

With regard to the "Christian Crusade" of Tulsa, Oklahoma, LA VARRE stated it is headed by Dr. BILLY HARGIS, a "hillbilly type evangelist", and run by [redacted] an advertising and promotional man, who previously headed the promotional campaign of ORAL ROBERTS, a Texas faith healer and evangelist. In October or November, 1957, LA VARRE advised that \$10,000.00 was passed from [redacted] to MAGUIRE for the "Christian Crusade" as MAGUIRE inadvertently sent the cashiers check for the money to Oklahoma instead of his personal check. LA VARRE stated that Dr. HARGIS was quite

Interview with WILLIAM LA VARRE File # 97-1446
250 West 57th Street,
on 4/17/57 at Room 315, NYC Dictated: 4/18/58
by Special Agent [redacted] amn